(ख) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने विदेशी कंपनियों को विशेष रियायतें देने का आश्वासन दिया है; यदि हां, तो उनका ब्यौरा क्या है?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम.पी. वीरेन्द्र कुमार): (क) वित्त मंत्री ने गत दो महीनों के दौरान ऐसी केवल एक ही यात्रा की है, अर्थात् दावोस, स्विटजरलैण्ड की यात्रा जहां उन्होंने आर्थिक नीति संबंधी मामलों से जुड़े किसी करार पर हस्ताक्षर नहीं किए।

(ख) सरकार की नीति विशेषकर महत्वपूर्ण क्षेत्रों जैसे आधारढांचा और निर्यात-संभावित उद्योगों में विदेशी प्रत्यक्ष निवेश (एफ.डी.आई.) को बढ़ावा देने की है। साझे न्यूनतम कार्यक्रम में भविष्य में हासिल करने के लिए 10 बिलियन डालर के वार्षिक अंतर्प्रवाह का लक्ष्य रखा गया है।

New schemes introduced by LIC

1095. SHRI AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Life Insurance Corporation has recently introduced two new money back schemes; and

(b) what are the main features of these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India have reported that they have introduced two new plans 'Jeevan Sanchay' and 'Jeevan Sneha'. The main features of these plans are given below:—

(a) *Jeevan Sanchay*

(i) Provision for survival benefit at periodic intervals; full sum assured payable on death irrespective of the survival benefit(s) paid earlier.

(ii) Guaranteed additions to sum assured at the rate of Rs. 70 per thousand, payable on death or maturity.

(iii) Provision for loyalty addition after the policy has been in force for 5 years.

(b) *Jeevan Sneha*

The Jeevan Sneha plan which is exclusively for women provides the following benefits in addition to benefits mentioned above.

(i) No forfeiture of the policy for non-payment of premium in the first three years if the premium has been paid for two years.

(ii) Option for advance payment of premium in three instalments on which a rebate is allowed.

(iii) Coverage of pregnancy and child birth risks.

(iv) Built in accident benefits.

(v) Provision for option for pension (annuity) on maturity.

(vi) Flexibility in claiming the survival benefits. If not claimed or opted for on due date then increased survival benefit would be payable.

Soiled currency notes

1096. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether people are facing difficulties to exchange soiled currency notes;

(b) whether a large number of soiled currency notes are in the country;

(c) whether any steps have been taken to withdraw these currency notes from the market; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Due to the capacity constraints of the note printing presses, banks resort to re-cycling of notes in circulation. RBI has authorised all branches of public sector banks to offer facilities, to their customers and others, to exchange soiled currency notes, including slightly mutilated notes. As and when complaints are received, these are also looked into by the RBI.

(c) and (d) Soiled notes are withdrawn in a phased manner by the Issue Offices of RBI through more than 4000 currency chests maintained at public sector banks all over the country. Such notes are also received by the Issue Offices from Govt. Departments and the public. On an average, every year, 4000 million pieces of soiled notes are withdrawn from circulation.